

What is claimed is:

1. A substrate for a medical bandaging material, comprising a warp knitted fabric in which the chain stitches are constructed from fiberglass yarns and the inlay stitch is constructed from an inelastic low modulus polymeric yarn, such that fraying and unraveling of a cut edge of said substrate is prevented.

2. A substrate according to claim 1, wherein said inlay stitch is constructed from polypropylene yarn.

3. A substrate according to claim 1, wherein the fiberglass yarns constitute between 75% and 95% of the total weight of the substrate.

4. A substrate according to claim 1, wherein the polypropylene yarns constitute between 75% and 95% of the total weight of said substrate.

5. A substrate according to claim 1, wherein said fabric weighs between 120-170 grams per square meter.

6. A medical bandaging material, comprising:
(a) a warp knitted substrate in which the chain stitches are constructed from fiberglass yarns and the inlay stitch is constructed from an inelastic low modulus polymeric yarn;

(b) a reactive system impregnated into or coated onto the substrate, the system remaining stable when maintained in substantially moisture-free conditions and hardening upon exposure to moisture to form a rigid, self supporting structure;

(c) a tubular wrapping surrounding the substrate.

7. A medical bandaging according to claim 6, wherein said inlay stitch is constructed from polypropylene yarn.

8. A medical bandaging according to claim 6, wherein said medical bandaging material has an extensibility of between 20% and 35% in the lengthwise direction prior to initiation of the curing process.

9. A medical bandaging according to claim 6, wherein the fiberglass yarns constitute between 75% and 95% of the total weight of the substrate.

10. A medical bandaging according to claim 6, wherein the polypropylene yarns constitute between 75% and 95% of the total weight of the substrate.

11. A medical bandaging according to claim 6, wherein the substrate weighs between 120-170 grams per square meter.

12. A medical bandaging product according to claim 6, wherein said tubular wrapping is formed of a synthetic, hydrophobic fabric.

13. A medical bandaging according to according to claim 6, wherein the reactive system comprises a blended polyisocyanate, polyol, catalyst and stabilizer.

14. A medical bandaging product, comprising:

(a) an outer container formed of moisture-impervious material;

(b) a medical bandaging material positioned in the container in substantially moisture-free conditions and sealed therein against entry of moisture until use, and comprising:

(i) a warp knitted substrate in which the chain stitches are constructed from fiberglass yarns and the inlay stitch is constructed from an inelastic low modulus polymeric yarn;

(ii) a reactive system impregnated into or coated onto the substrate, the system remaining stable when maintained in substantially moisture-free conditions and hardening upon exposure to moisture to form a rigid, self supporting structure;

(iii) a tubular wrapping surrounding the substrate.

15. A medical bandaging product according to claim 14, wherein said inlay stitch is constructed from polypropylene yarn.

16. A medical bandaging product according to claim 14, wherein said medical bandaging material has an extensibility of between 20% and 35% in the lengthwise direction prior to initiation of the curing process.

17. A medical bandaging product according to claim 14, wherein the fiberglass yarns constitute between 75% and 95% of the total weight of the substrate.

18. A medical bandaging product according to claim 14, wherein the polypropylene yarns constitute between 75% and 95% of the total weight of the substrate.

19. The medical bandaging product of claim 14, wherein the substrate weighs between 120-170 grams per square meter.

20. A medical bandaging product according to claim 14, wherein the container is fabricated of an aluminum foil laminate having an outer tear resistant layer, a central aluminum foil layer and an inner heat sealable plastic layer.

21. A medical bandaging product according to claim 14, wherein said tubular wrapping is formed of a synthetic, hydrophobic fabric.

22. A medical bandaging product according to claim 14, wherein the reactive system comprises a blended polyisocyanate, polyol, catalyst and stabilizer.

23. A medical bandaging product according to claim 20, wherein said outer container defines a bag which receives a coil of said medical bandaging material, and an elongated sleeve for dispensing said medical bandaging material.

24. A medical bandaging material according to claim 20 further comprising means for resealing an end of said outer container against the entry of moisture therein after a length of the medical banding product has been removed therefrom.

25. A medical bandaging product according to claim 20 wherein said outer container and said medical bandaging material contained therein are pre cut to a selected length and the ends of said outer container are sealed against the entry of moisture therein.

26. A method of applying a splint to a selected body part, comprising the steps of:

(a) providing an initially-moldable, medical bandaging material positioned in a container in substantially moisture-free conditions and sealed therein against entry of moisture until use, said medical bandaging material comprising:

(I) a warp knitted substrate in which the chain stitches are constructed from fiberglass yarns and the inlay stitch is constructed from an inelastic low modulus polymeric yarn;

(ii) a reactive system impregnated into or coated onto the substrate, the system remaining stable when maintained in substantially moisture-free conditions and hardening upon exposure to moisture to form a rigid, self supporting structure; and

(iii) a tubular wrapping covering the substrate;

(b) wetting said medical bandaging material;

(c) urging said medical bandaging material against said selected body part and into a position whereby the body part is supported in a desired position;

(d) molding the medical bandaging material while flexible to the body part with the body part the desired position; and

(e) allowing the medical bandaging material to harden on the body part.